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49. The process of claim 48, wherein the cleavable amino acid residue is an Arg or a Lys residue.

5 50. The process of claim 30, wherein the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

10 51. The process of claim 30, wherein the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.

15 52. The process of claim 30, wherein the chaotropic auxiliary agent is selected from the group consisting of guanidine hydrochloride, ethylene carbonate, thiocyanate, dimethyl sulfoxide and urea.

53. The process of claim 52, wherein the chaotropic auxiliary agent is urea.

20 54. The process of claim 53, wherein the urea is present at a concentration from about 2.0 to about 8.0 M.

25 55. The process of claim 54, wherein the urea is present at a concentration from about 3.0 to about 6.0 M.

56. The process of claim 30, wherein the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein is contacted with at least one chaotropic auxiliary agent in an aqueous medium at a pH from about 8.0 to about 10.5 and at a concentration of the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein from about 0.05 to about 15.0 g per liter.

57. The process of claim 56, wherein the pH is maintained from about 9.0 to about 10.0.

35 58. The process of claim 56, wherein the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein is present from about 0.5 to about 5.0 g per

liter.

59. The process of claim 58, wherein the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein is present from about 2.0 to about 3.0 g per
5 liter.

60. The process of claim 30, further comprising contacting the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein with a quantity of a mercaptan, which quantity yields less than 5 -SH radical of the mercaptan per cysteine
10 residue of the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein.

61. The process of claim 60, wherein the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein is contacted with the mercaptan and the chaotropic auxiliary agent concurrently.
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62. The process of claim 60, wherein the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein is contacted with the mercaptan and the chaotropic auxiliary agent sequentially.

63. The process of claim 60, wherein the quantity of the mercaptan yields from about 0.07 to about 1.0 -SH radical of the mercaptan per cysteine residue of the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein.
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64. The process of claim 60, wherein the mercaptan is selected from the
25 group consisting of dithiothreitol, dithioerythrol, 2-mercaptoethanol, cysteine, methyl thioglycolate, 3-mercapto-1,2-propanediol and 3-mercaptopropionic acid.

65. The process of claim 64, wherein the mercaptan is 2-mercaptoethanol.
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66. The process of claim 30, further comprising separating the correctly folded first insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein from the incorrectly folded second insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein.

67. The process of claim 66, wherein the correctly folded first insulin-precursor-containing chimeric protein is separated from the incorrectly folded second
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